



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **TAKADA, Kazuhiko**

Serial No.: **09/986,574** ✓

Filed: **November 9, 2001**

Group Art Unit: **3729**

Examiner: **CHANG, RICK KILTAE**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **5839**

For: **CRIMPING APPARATUS AND WIRE
HARNESS MANUFACTURING METHOD**

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED September 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

Date: November 12, 2003

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Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **September 23, 2003**.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-4; and Group (II),
Claim 5.

Applicant hereby elects the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-4 for prosecution in this application. This election is made with traverse. It is believed that claim 5 is so closely related to claims 1 through 4 that it should remain in the same application to preserve unity of invention and to avoid any possibility of a charge of double patenting arising at some later date. The elected claims 1 through 4 are directed to a crimping apparatus and claim 5 is directed to the same crimping apparatus as is recited in claims 1 to 4 but wherein the crimping blade recited in claims 3 and 4 is more succinctly stated as its relationship to the wire holder, the connector and the wire receiver.

It is believed also that the Examiner is trying to draw too fine a line of distinction and that when all the various facts are taken into account, Groups I and II can remain in this application. In any event, Group I has been elected and hence claims 1 through 4 are entitled to action on their merits, it being understood that the Applicant's rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter of Group II under 35 U.S.C. 120 and 35 U.S.C. 121 are retained.

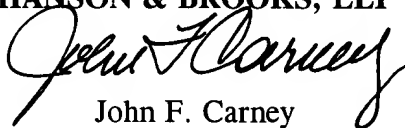
Since Applicant has fully and completely responded to the Official Action and has made the required election, this application is now in order for early action at least on the merits of claims 1 through 4.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

**ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
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